

SECRET

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25X1 PRIORITY SAIGON

1. PATTERN AND INTERPRETATION SEPTEMBER 1967 SVN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS HAS BECOME MATTER OF CONCERN TO SENIOR ECHELONS HERE. ONE PROBLEM IS THAT OUR SUPPOSEDLY OFFICIAL FIGURES ARE NOT INTERNALLY CONSISTENT.
2. WE ARE USING 4,735,449 AS ADJUSTED FINAL TOTAL OF VALID VOTES CAST. OUR SAIGON DERIVED DATA GIVES FOLLOWING FINAL VOTE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE FOR EACH TICKET: #1) SUU/DAN 513,374 (10.8); #2) KY/DINH 349,473 (7.3); #3) BINH/KHINH 131,069 (2.7); #4) DZU/CHIEU 817,120 (17.2); #5) HUONG/TRUYEN 474,100 (10.1); #6) CO/SINH 106,317 (2.2); #7) LY/DUONG 92,604 (1.9); #8) HIEP/TRUYEN 160,800 (3.4); #9) THIEU/KY 1,649,562 (34.8); #10) KHANH/DONG 149,276 (3.1); #11) QUAT/CHAN 291,754 (6.1). THESE PERCENTAGES DO NOT ADD UP TO 100.0.
3. REQUEST STATION, IN CONSULTATION WITH EMBASSY POLITICAL SECTION, RECHECK OUR FIGURES FOR OFFICIAL ACCURACY AND ADJUST PERCENTAGES SO AGGREGATE TOTAL COMES OUT TO 100.0.
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4. ALSO REQUEST STATION INFORMATION AND COMMENT ON FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

A. HOW MANY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES HAVE POSITIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT AND WHAT IS AGGREGATE PERCENTAGE OF VOTES THESE CANDIDATES RECEIVED (ANSWER HERE PROBABLY THIEU/KY AND HUONG/TRUYE WITH AGGREGATE PERCENTAGE OF 44.9%)?

B. WHICH PRESIDENTIAL OR VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES CAN BE ACCURATELY AND ~~KKKKKK~~ LEGITIMATELY DESCRIBED AS BEING POLITICALLY ACTIVE IN GENERAL SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT (E.G., TRAN VAN DON THROUGH HIS LIEN MINH AFFILIATION AND ~~KKKKK~~ PARTICIPATION)?

C. WHICH CANDIDATES CAN BE LEGITIMATELY DESCRIBED AS SUPPORTING THE GVN'S STRUGGLE AGAINST THE VC/NLF EVEN IF, WITHIN THE NON-COMMUNIST RANKS THEY ARE OPPOSED TO THIEU, KY AND/OR HUONG? (HA THUC KY AND VU ~~HHONG~~ HONG KHANG MIGHT FIT HERE.)

D. RELATED TO BUT SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM C, IS IT ACCURATE TO SAY THAT DZU WAS THE ONLY CANDIDATE ADVOCATING ACCOMODATION OR COMPROMISE WITH THE VC/NLF, I.E., THAT 82.8 PERCENT OF THE VOTERS

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VOTED FOR CANDIDATES STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE VC/NLF?

5. OBJECT OF EXERCISE IS TO DEVELOP AGGREGATE PERCENTAGE OF VOTES OBTAINED BY CANDIDATES IN EACH OF ABOVE CATEGORIES. REQUEST YOU ALSO COMMENT ON CANDIDATES WHO DO NOT FIT INTO ANY OF THE CATEGORIES OUTLINED ABOVE. WE NEED YOUR ANSWER AS SOON AS CONVENIENTLY POSSIBLE.

END OF MESSAGE

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for George A. Cava
SAVA
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